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Historical Sketch of the
Hymnal Committee of the
Presbyterian Church in Canada

W. B. Mc Murrich

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HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF THE
HYMNAL COMMITTEE OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN CANADA

BY

W. BARCLAY M^cMURRICH, M.A., K.C.

SECRETARY-TREASURER OF COMMITTEE

HENRY FROWDE

LONDON: AMEN CORNER, E.C.

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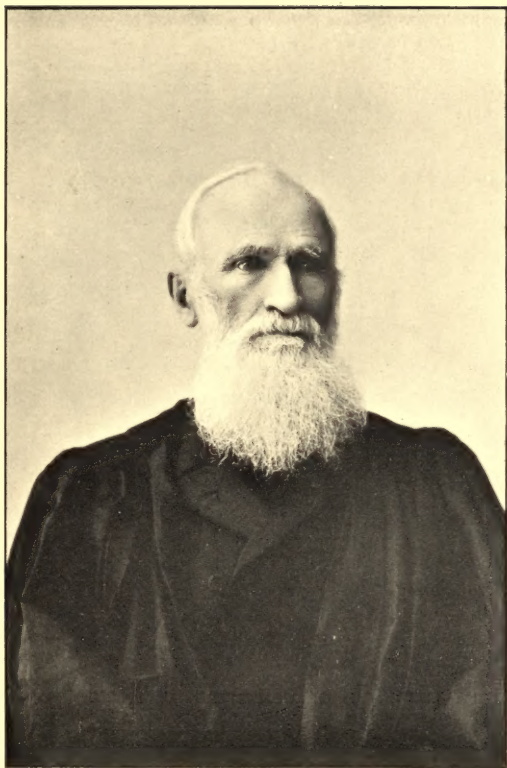
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REV. JOHN JENKINS, D.D.

JOINT CONVENER



REV. WILLIAM GREGG, D.D.

JOINT CONVENER

PREFACE

MORE than a quarter of a century has rolled by since the work relegated to the Hymnal Committee was commenced, and many of those who took a prominent part in its proceedings have passed away.

Our revered and venerable Convener, Dr. Gregg, and myself are the only two on the Committee who have been members continuously since its formation in 1878.

With the concurrence of our Convener and the approval of the Executive Committee, I have drawn up this short sketch of its proceedings, from the records in my possession, in order that the work accomplished may be read in a concise form, which may be a useful guide and source of information to those who may hereafter be charged with the responsibility of carrying out the decisions of future General Assemblies in connexion with this department of the Church's work.

I have to thank Dr. J. Somerville and the Rev. A. MacMillan for assistance rendered me in reference to the proceedings of the Music Committee, and for their faithful and diligent labours in connexion with the publication of the Presbyterian Book of Praise.

W. BARCLAY McMURRICH.

TORONTO,

March 1, 1905.

HYMNAL COMMITTEE, 1904.

Convener.

Rev. WM. GREGG, D.D.

Secretary-Treasurer.

W. BARCLAY McMURRICH, M.A., K.C.

Ministers.

W. D. ARMSTRONG, Ph.D., D.D.

A. BLACK, D.D.

W. J. DEY, M.A.

D. M. GORDON, D.D.

G. C. HEINE, B.A.

ALEXANDER HENDERSON.

W. T. HERRIDGE, D.D.

W. J. KNOX, M.A.

D. L. McCREA, Ph.D.

J. A. MACDONALD.

M. McGILLIVRAY, D.D.

ALEX. MACMILLAN.

J. B. MULLAN.

JOHN SCRINGER, D.D.

J. SOMERVILLE, D.D.

J. G. STUART, B.A.

J. THOMSON, M.A.

Elders.

R. A. BECKET.

Prof. S. W. DYDE.

JAMES GIBSON.

JOSEPH HENDERSON.

W. B. McMURRICH, M.A., K.C.

R. MURRAY, LL.D.

WILLIAM SELBY.

JOHN H. THOM.

MEMBERS OF HYMNAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1878.

JOHN JENKINS, D.D., Joint Convener, 1878 to 1885,
1894 to 1897.

*WILLIAM GREGG, D.D., Joint Convener, 1878; and
Convener since 1886.

PROF. MOWAT, D.D. 1878 to 1885

JOHN JAMES, D.D. 1878 to 1885, 1889 to 1892, 1894 to
1901.

DONALD McRAE, D.D. 1878 to 1885, 1889 to 1901

D. J. MACDONNELL, B.D. 1878 to 1895

*JOHN THOMSON (Ayr) 1878 to 1885, 1888

J. S. BLACK 1878 to 1884

*ROBERT MURRAY, LL.D. 1878 to 1885, 1887

*W. B. McMURRICH, M.A., K.C., Secretary-

Treasurer 1878

*D. M. GORDON, D.D. 1878

D. D. McLEOD, D.D. 1883 to 1885

P. McF. McLEOD 1883 to 1894

D. B. CAMERON (Acton) 1883 to 1885

Hon. Justice McLENNAN, K.C. 1885 to 1889

A. McMURCHY 1885 to 1890

THOMAS KIRKLAND, M.A. 1885 to 1895

ROBERT KILGOUR 1885 to 1888

*JOSEPH HENDERSON 1888

JOHN LAING, D.D. 1889 to 1892

Dr. ROSS 1889 to 1890

J. K. WELSH 1889 to 1892

* Now Members.

HYMNAL COMMITTEE

vii

*G. C. HEINE, B.D.	.	.	.	.	1889
JAMES ANDERSON, M.A.	.	.	.	.	1889 to 1890
W. G. WALLACE, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1889 to 1890
*JAMES GIBSON	.	.	.	.	1889
*W. T. HERRIDGE, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1890
J. MACKIE, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1890 to 1892
*R. A. BECKET	.	.	.	.	1890
M. H. SCOTT, M.A.	.	.	.	.	1891 to 1892
*J. B. MULLAN	.	.	.	.	1891
*ALEXANDER HENDERSON	.	.	.	.	1891
*JOHN H. THOM	.	.	.	.	1891
JOHN McLAREN (Carp)	.	.	.	.	1892 to 1893
F. B. DUVAL, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1893 to 1895
*W. D. ARMSTRONG, Ph.D., D.D.	.	.	.	.	1893
J. B. FRASER, M.D.	.	.	.	.	1893 to 1901
*M. McGILLIVRAY, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1893
*ALEX. MACMILLAN	.	.	.	.	1893
*J. G. STUART, B.A.	.	.	.	.	1893
JAMES JOHNSON	.	.	.	.	1893 to 1903
*Prof. S. W. DYDE	.	.	.	.	1893
WM. MACLAREN, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1894 to 1903
*D. L. McCREA, Ph.D.	.	.	.	.	1894
*J. SOMERVILLE, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1894
*Principal SCRIMGER, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1894
R. S. G. ANDERSON, B.D.	.	.	.	.	1894 to 1903
*J. A. MACDONALD	.	.	.	.	1895
*W. J. DEY, M.A.	.	.	.	.	1896
W. B. GEIKIE, M.D.	.	.	.	.	1896 to 1903
JOHN HENDERSON	.	.	.	.	1899 to 1903
*A. BLACK, D.D.	.	.	.	.	1904
*W. J. KNOX, M.A.	.	.	.	.	1904
*WILLIAM SELBY	.	.	.	.	1904

* Now Members.

THE HYMNS AND HYMNAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

LOOKING back over the passing years, covering a quarter of a century, no change has been productive of more good than the introduction of Hymns into the public worship of the Church. It seems passing strange in the light of to-day and the experience of these years, that a single voice should have been raised in opposition to their introduction, and yet it was by many considered an objectionable innovation to be opposed. It was true that the Church possessed a glorious heritage of song, the strains of the 'Magnificat' coming down the centuries, from the time that Mary, a humble maiden of Israel, sang the first Christian song in the house of Elizabeth in the Mountains of Judah.

'My soul doth magnify the Lord,
And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For He hath regarded the low estate of His hand-
maiden ;
For, behold, from henceforth all generations shall call
me blessed.'

The strains of this song had hardly died away,

when the song of Zacharias proclaiming the advent of John the Baptist was heard.

‘Blessed be the Lord God of Israel ;
For He hath visited and redeemed His people.

And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the
Highest,
For thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to
prepare His ways.’

The Christmas Carol broke forth, the song of the angels, ‘Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men’; to be followed by the tender and exquisite song—the ‘Nunc Dimittis’ of Simeon, as he took the infant Jesus in his arms in the Temple—

‘Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart, O Lord,
According to Thy word, in peace ;
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.’

These early Christian songs were deeply cherished, but in our Church the so-called Scottish version of the Psalms with the Paraphrases were practically alone used in its psalmody, and hallowed associations as the centuries passed had gathered around them, and made it difficult to effect a change.

Many of those who took part in the authorized introduction of a Hymn Book for use in public worship in the Church have passed away, but

others are carrying on the work, and it may not prove uninteresting to trace the good work accomplished by the Hymnal Committee since its formation, and present its proceedings in a concise form, as a matter of history and for future reference, in the interests of the Church generally. In the mother land the movement had taken shape very early. In 1851 the then recently formed United Presbyterian Church authorized a Hymn Book which appeared in 1876 under the title of 'The Presbyterian Hymnal'; an enlarged edition of Hymns authorized in 1861 by the Church of Scotland appeared in 1864, followed by the first edition of the Scottish Hymnal in 1870 and the second in 1884. The Free Church of Scotland issued the first edition of its Hymn Book in 1872, and the second and enlarged one in 1881.

Prior to the introduction of a Canadian Hymn Book many of the congregations of the Church had introduced into their service one or other of the above issues of the several Churches, and it was doubtless owing to this fact and to the desire for greater uniformity in our service of praise that the movement for a Church Hymnary was a strong one from the first and met with general approval. The first overture in favour of a Common Hymnal was read to the General

Assembly of 1877, but it was not until the following year that the matter was taken up and discussed.

On Saturday, the 15th day of June, 1878, at Hamilton, the overture from the Presbytery of Ottawa, adopted by the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa, anent the preparation of a Hymn Book was brought up for consideration and read; it having been held over from the previous meeting of Assembly. Overtures of a similar purport were read from the Presbyteries of Hamilton, Miramichi, Paris, Whitby, and the Synod of Hamilton and London, and were duly supported.

It may be interesting at this point, the initial stage of the movement, to note the reasons given in advocacy of the preparation of such a work, and as these are given very fully in the overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton, it may be quoted in its entirety. It read as follows : 'Whereas it belongs to the Supreme Court of the Church to deal with matters of common concern to the Church respecting worship and particularly respecting the service of praise; whereas at the time of the Union it was resolved that further action in this matter should be left to the legislation of the United Church; whereas, also, a great variety of collections of hymns are in use in the several congregations and Sabbath

schools, and some of these contain hymns of an objectionable character ; whereas further it is expedient and dutiful that an effort be made to secure uniformity in the service of praise as far as possible and to have only such hymns used as the Church can approve—the Assembly is therefore respectfully overtured to consider the best way for providing a Hymn Book for the use of such congregations as may see fit to use hymns, at the same time taking order that no other collection than that so provided shall be hereafter introduced in the service of praise in the congregations and Sabbath schools of the Church.’

The consideration of these overtures occupied the General Assembly not only for the greater part of the sederunt in which they were introduced, but of the two following sederunts as well, so great was the interest taken in the question, and so diverse the views of the members as to the expediency of taking the action proposed. It became necessary before the termination of the debate to limit the speakers to ten minutes each.

At the conclusion of the discussion the following motion became the judgement of the Court : moved by Mr. John Laing, seconded by Dr. James, and resolved, that the overtures be received and

be referred to a committee for consideration, with instructions to prepare a deliverance which may give effect to the prayer of the overtures in their general tenor. In pursuance of said motion the several overtures were referred to a committee consisting of Rev. D. M. Gordon, Convener, Professor Gregg, Dr. Bennett, and Messrs. John Laing, D. J. Macdonnell, J. S. Black, J. A. F. McBain, A. J. Mackenzie, W. Adamson, Robert Murray, and Robert Bell.

The report of this committee was presented on the morning of the 20th day of June, 1878, and considered at the afternoon sederunt, when it was adopted after several amendments had been made and read as follows :—‘Whereas the use of hymns was allowed in each of the four Churches that now compose the Presbyterian Church in Canada prior to the Union ; and whereas several hymn books, especially “The English Presbyterian Hymn Book,” “The Scottish Hymnal,” “The United Presbyterian Hymn Book,” and “The Free Church Hymn Book” are in use in congregations of this Church. And whereas the variety of Hymn Books now in use tends to impair that uniformity in worship which the overtures recognize as desirable. And whereas the prayer of the overtures is that steps be taken to provide one Hymn Book which may be allowed

by the Assembly for such congregations as desire the use of a Hymn Book in their service of praise. And whereas the overtures do not contemplate restricting the liberty of congregations now using Hymn Books, but consider it practicable to make a selection which may commend itself for general adoption, the Assembly therefore resolve to appoint a committee to provide a selection chiefly from the four Hymn Books already mentioned, and to send down the book compiled by them to Presbyteries in order to be examined by them and reported on to the next General Assembly, so that the collection may be as acceptable as possible to the Church.'

At a subsequent sederunt the Assembly appointed the following as their committee to prepare a Hymn Book in terms of the report so adopted, viz. Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Gregg, Joint Conveners, Professor Mowat, Dr. James, Messrs. Donald McRae, John Thomson (Ayr), D. J. Macdonnell, J. S. Black, Robert Murray, and W. B. McMurrich. Thus was formed the first committee of the Church for this important work, and its members had the honour of compiling the first Hymn Book, which held its place in the Church for over seventeen years, until replaced by the 'Presbyterian Book of Praise' now in general use.

The Committee at once met and organized, appointing Mr. W. B. M^cMurrich their secretary, a position he has had the great privilege of holding ever since.

In making arrangements for the carrying on of the work of the Committee it was deemed advisable that each member should prepare an individual list of Hymns, deemed by him suitable to be used, and that these lists should be sent in to the Conveners and be considered at a general meeting to be held of the whole Committee ; list being compared with list, the hymns common to all the lists to have the preference. The greater part of the year was taken up in the preparation by the various members of their respective lists, great care being taken by each one to secure the best hymns from the books in use, as directed by the General Assembly: hymns not only the best but suitable for congregational use, and above all filled with true worship and devotion. Looking back, it is a matter of much interest to note the thirty-nine hymns common to all the lists sent in by the ten members of the Committee. Giving the first line of each hymn, alphabetically arranged, they were as follows :—

1. Abide with me! fast falls the eventide.—Rev. H. F. LYTE, 1793-1847.



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SECRETARY-TREASURER

2. According to thy gracious word.—JAS. MONTGOMERY,
1771-1854.
3. All hail the power of Jesus' name.—Rev. E. PER-
RONET, 1721-1792.
4. Children of the Heavenly King.—Rev. JOHN CENNICK,
1718-1755.
5. Christ the Lord is risen to-day.—Rev. CHAS. WESLEY,
1707-1788.
6. Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched.—Rev. JOSEPH
HART, 1712-1768.
7. Eternal Father, strong to save.—WM. WHITING,
1825-1878.
8. For ever with the Lord. — JAS. MONTGOMERY,
1771-1854.
9. From Greenland's icy mountains.—REGINALD HEBER,
D.D., 1783-1826.
10. God moves in a mysterious way.—WILLIAM COWPER,
1731-1800.
11. Great God, what do I see and hear?—ANON., W. B.
COLLYER, T. COTTERILL, Luther's Hymn.
12. Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah.—WM. WILLIAMS,
1717-1791.
13. Hail to the Lord's Anointed.—JAS. MONTGOMERY,
1771-1854.
14. Hark, my soul! it is the Lord.—WILLIAM COWPER,
1731-1800.
15. Hark! the herald angels sing.—Rev. CHAS. WESLEY,
1707-1788.
16. How sweet the Name of Jesus sounds.—Rev. JOHN
NEWTON, 1725-1807.
17. I heard the voice of Jesus say.—HORATIUS BONAR,
D.D., 1808-1889.
18. I lay my sins on Jesus.—HORATIUS BONAR, D.D.,
1808-1889.

19. Jesus, and shall it ever be.—JOSEPH GRIGG, 1720-1768, and BENJAMIN FRANCIS, 1734-1799.
20. Jesus, lover of my soul.—Rev. CHAS. WESLEY, 1707-1788.
21. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun.—ISAAC WATTS, D.D., 1674-1748.
22. Jesus, the very thought of Thee.—BERNARD, twelfth century.
23. Just as I am, without one plea.—C. ELLIOTT, 1789-1871.
24. Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing.—Rev. J. FAWCETT, 1740-1847.
25. My faith looks up to Thee.—RAY PALMER, 1808-1887.
26. My God and Father, while I stray.—C. ELLIOTT, 1789-1871.
27. Nearer, my God, to Thee.—SARAH F. ADAMS, 1805-1848.
28. O for a closer walk with God.—WM. COWPER, 1731-1800.
29. O for a heart to praise my God.—Rev. CHAS. WESLEY, 1707-1788.
30. O worship the King, all glorious above.—Sir R. GRANT, 1779-1838.
31. One there is above all others.—Rev. JOHN NEWTON, 1725-1807.
32. Rock of Ages, cleft for me.—Rev. A. M. TOPLADY, 1740-1778.
33. Songs of praise the angels sang.—JAS. MONTGOMERY, 1771-1854.
34. Sun of my soul, Thou Saviour dear.—Rev. JOHN KEBLE, 1792-1866.
35. Sweet the moments, rich in blessing.
36. The Head that once was crowned with thorns.—Rev. THO. KELLY, 1769-1855.

37. The Spirit breathes upon the word.—WM. COWPER,
1731-1800.
38. There is a fountain filled with Blood.—WM. COWPER,
1731-1800.
39. When this passing world is done.—REV. M^cCHEYNE,
1813-1843.

These hymns were all chosen, and are still to be found in the present Book of Praise, as dear to the Church to-day as they were when so selected.

Altogether some 489 hymns were submitted by the Members of the Committee, and the following table shows the votes of the Committee in respect thereof:—

211 hymns recommended by only one member.

52	„	„	„	two members.
13	„	„	„	three „
13	„	„	„	four „
20	„	„	„	five „
17	„	„	„	six „
34	„	„	„	seven „
49	„	„	„	eight „
41	„	„	„	nine „
39	„	„	„	ten „

489 in all.

427 hymns were from the Presbyterian Hymn Books in use.

62 „ from other sources.

489 in all.

By Metres.

88	Common Measure.
70	Long "
40	Short "
251	Peculiar "
40	Unascertained Measures.
<hr/>	
489	

The Committee reported progress to the General Assembly held at Ottawa, June, 1879. In this connexion there was read an overture from the Synod of Hamilton and London recommending the Assembly to give further time for the preparation of the proposed Hymn Book, and to enlarge the Committee so as to secure a fuller representation of the mind of the Church. The overture was supported by Messrs. McMullen, D. D. McLeod, and J. A. Murray. It was moved by Dr. Jenkins and seconded by Mr. Forrest—

1. That the report be received and the Committee reappointed with instructions to avail themselves of the suggestions of Presbyteries for the purpose of making the Hymn Book as complete as possible, and also that they be empowered to publish the book for the use of congregations in our Church.

2. That the Committee be empowered to make arrangements with publishers to secure the copyright for the benefit of the Church.

3. That the expenses incurred by the Committee be paid in the meantime from the Assembly Fund, to be repaid from the profits of publication.

4. That a Committee be appointed to select suitable music for the Hymns adopted, in order that an edition with music may be published as early as practicable. To this it was moved in amendment by Principal Cavan and seconded by Principal M^cVicar, that the Assembly receive the report and thank the Committee for their diligence. Further, the General Assembly express their appreciation of the progress made by the Committee, and reappoint the Committee with instructions to continue their labours for the improvement of the collection of Hymns presented by them, giving full consideration to the criticisms of Presbyteries forwarded to them or which may yet be forwarded, and report to the next General Assembly. Further, Presbyteries are invited still to assist the Committee by submitting to them any well-considered suggestions which may seem to them of importance. A vote having been taken the amendment carried over the motion by 71 to 57. The roll having been called the main motion then amended was carried by 84 to 62.

At a later sederunt, apparently to settle any

doubts which had arisen as to the effect of the foregoing amendment, Mr. Robert Murray, on behalf of the Committee, presented to the Assembly certain recommendations.

The Assembly unanimously resolved—

1. To empower the Committee on Hymnology to make such arrangements as shall secure the copyrights of the Hymn Book to be issued.

2. To instruct Presbyteries to forward their suggestions referred to in foregoing amendment of Principal Cavan not later than November 30.

3. To empower the Committee to select suitable music for the hymns.

4. To authorize the payment from the Assembly Fund of the expenses incurred by the Committee.

5. To instruct the Committee to print and send down to Presbyteries the new list of hymns submitted in their report.

At the General Assembly holden in Montreal in the year 1880, the Committee, after another year's work of activity in connexion with the compilation of the Hymn Book, receiving suggestions from Presbyteries, revising work already done, and completing selections, were enabled to submit a copy of the proposed book in printed form for the approval of the Assembly, contain-

ing 349 hymns, recommending that the title of the book should be 'Hymnal of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, prepared by a Committee of the General Assembly.' Of the 349 hymns thus submitted, 223 were taken from the United Presbyterian Hymn Book, 135 from the old U. P. Hymn Book, 213 from the English Presbyterian Hymn Book, 163 from the Scottish Hymnal, and 75 from the Free Church Hymn Book, only 40 hymns being taken from other sources, most of these being children's hymns. The Committee further reported that the book had been duly copyrighted, the same being secured in the name of the joint Conveners, the Rev. John Jenkins, D.D., and the Rev. W. Gregg, D.D., in trust for the Church, and arrangements made with Messrs. Campbell & Sons of Toronto for its publication.

Several Presbyteries having recommended that a selection from the Paraphrases should be incorporated in the Hymn Book, the Committee during the year considered very carefully this proposition, and critically examined them with this object in view, but finding that only some ten or twelve of the Paraphrases could by general consent be omitted, agreed to recommend that an edition of the hymns should be bound up with the Psalms and Paraphrases.

They further recommended the issue of a suitable hymn book for use in the Sabbath schools.

Dr. Jenkins submitted the report, and on his motion, seconded by Mr. Pitblade, the General Assembly adopted the following resolutions—

1. Receive the report ; approve generally of the Hymn Book submitted by the Committee, and commend it to such congregations as desire the use of a hymn book in the service of praise.

2. Cordially thank authors and proprietors for their generous response to the application of the Committee for permission to insert copyright hymns.

3. Ratify the arrangements provisionally made by the Committee with Messrs. James Campbell & Sons for the publication of the Hymn Book.

4. Reappoint the Committee, and authorize them to arrange for the publication of editions of the book in various sizes, also to prepare with as little delay as possible an edition with suitable music, and further to receive royalty from the publishers in order to the repayment to the Treasurer of the Assembly Fund of the sums requisite for the preparation of the book, furnishing a complete statement of receipts and expenditure to the next General Assembly.

On motion of Mr. A. McLean Sinclair, seconded by Mr. Thomas Duncan, the General Assembly tendered thanks to the Committee on the Hymn Book, especially to the Conveners, for the faithfulness and diligence with which they had attended to the matter entrusted to them.

At the first meeting of the Committee held after their reappointment as above, it was agreed that the word 'Hymnal' should be the title on the outside of the book, and that the name as adopted by the General Assembly should be put on the title-page, to be followed with the words, 'as approved and commended by the General Assembly.'

It was agreed that the issuing of new editions of the work should be left in the hands of Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Gregg (joint Conveners), Dr. James, and Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell and W. B. McMurrich.

Dr. Gregg and Mr. D. J. Macdonnell were appointed a sub-committee to arrange an Index of Subjects and Texts.

Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell, J. Thompson, and W. B. McMurrich were appointed a sub-committee to prepare the musical edition of the Hymn Book, the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell to be Convener; and that Mr. Patrick McLeod, of

Stratford, and Mr. Cameron, of Acton, be asked to co-operate with the sub-committee.

The first edition of the Hymnal was issued early in the year 1880 at the price of 35 cents per copy. Towards the end of the year the musical edition was so far advanced that the sub-committee were able to report the edition as ready for revision, and to recommend that this work be entrusted to Dr. Edward J. Hopkins, of the Temple Church, London, England, which recommendation was unanimously approved.

The completed manuscript was forwarded to him in March, 1881. The Church has gratefully acknowledged and still feels deeply indebted to the late Dr. Hopkins for the thorough and systematic work done by him in connexion with such revision. With him it was a labour of love, and he showed his great interest in the Hymnal, and displayed his noble generosity in freely giving to the Committee the use of many tunes of which he was the composer, tunes that still hold an honoured place in the new 'Presbyterian Book of Praise.'

Arrangements were also made for the issue of an edition of the Hymn Book in small type bound up with the Psalms and Paraphrases, and the same was issued at the price of 15 cents per copy; an edition was also authorized of the

hymns alone for the same purpose at a price not to exceed 8 cents per copy.

The result of the year's work was submitted to the General Assembly of 1881 by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, when, on motion of Dr. Cochran, duly seconded, the following resolution was adopted: 'The Assembly receive and adopt the report and tender their thanks to the Committee and those associated with them, and especially to the Conveners, for their diligent and successful labours in this important work. Further, the Assembly re-appoint the Committee, with instructions to continue their labours.'

The first two payments of royalty of 10 per cent. from the publishers were reported at this meeting, and for the sake of comparison hereafter it is interesting to note the statement then rendered, which was as follows:—

W. B. McMurich, Treasurer, in account with
Hymnal Committee.

Dr.

1880	
Dec. 29.	To cash received from Messrs. Campbell and Son on account of royalty . . . \$350.00
1881	
May 1. „	ditto 423.50
	<hr/> 773.50

Cr.

1881

Jan. 5.	By account paid Dr. Reid	\$300.00	
May 3.	" " " "	375.00	
	Various copyright ex-		
	penses paid . . .	64.76	
	Travelling expenses :		
	Members of Committee	5.90	
		<hr/>	745.66
	Balance on hand		27.84
			<hr/>
			773.50

The Hymnal with tunes was duly issued during the autumn of 1881, the work having been greatly expedited by the work of the Convener of the sub-committee on tunes, the late Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, who had visited England during the summer and assisted Dr. Hopkins in getting the edition through the press. It is needless to say that Mr. Macdonnell threw into the work his full energies, his whole soul was filled with the task of producing something worthy of the Church, and to the honour and glory of his Master. How well he succeeded the Church knew, and his influence and magnetism was, and is, still felt in connexion with our hymnology.

The price of the Hymnal with Tunes was fixed at 90 cents per copy, and during the year the sales amounted to 7,500 copies.

The Sabbath School Edition of the Hymns

without Psalms was issued during the year at the price of 8 cents per copy.

In sending in their report for the year to the General Assembly in 1882 the Committee recommended that the surplus money in their hands received on royalty account after deducting necessary expenses should be devoted to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, in proportion to the number of ministers connected with or having an interest in each several fund of this description.

The report was submitted by Dr. Gregg and adopted.

From the financial statement presented with this report, taken in connexion with that of the previous year, it would appear that the total cost to the Church of getting out this Hymnal was as follows :—

Paid for Copyright Tunes and Hymns . . .	\$340.62
„ Travelling expenses of Members . . .	37.90
„ Revising Tunes, &c.	244.00
	<hr/>
	\$622.52

During the year 1882-3 the Committee authorized and issued a large type edition of the Hymnal at 75 cents per copy. It had been intended also to issue an edition of the Psalter with Music, to accompany the hymns ;

but ascertaining early in the year that such an edition had been undertaken by the Free Church of Scotland and issued under the superintendence of Dr. E. J. Hopkins, the accomplished editor of our Hymnal with Tunes, and being satisfied that it would prove suitable to the Church, the Committee agreed to accept this edition with an altered title-page containing the words 'Psalms and Paraphrases with accompanying tunes for use in the Presbyterian Church in Canada,' &c.

An edition of the Hymnal with tunes in the tonic sol-fa notation, was also authorized on the strength of representations made to the Committee as to its necessity, which later on circumstances unfortunately showed not to be the case. It was agreed to ask the General Assembly to authorize the Committee to prepare and publish for the use of Sabbath Schools a selection from the Psalms, Paraphrases and Hymnal, with additional hymns suitable for children and accompanying tunes, which recommendation was adopted by the General Assembly at its meeting in June, 1883.

The Committee sat for two days, November 27 and 28, 1883, and made their selection for the new Sabbath School Hymnal, and ordered the same to be put in type. The

publishing sub-committee appointed to take charge consisted of Rev. Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Gregg (joint Conveners), Dr. James and Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell and W. B. McMurrich. The sub-committee on music therefor—Rev. D. J. Macdonnell (Convener) and Messrs. P. M. F. McLeod, D. B. Cameron, John Thomson (Ayr), and W. B. McMurrich.

The new Sabbath School Hymnal being printed, the Committee met on February 26, 1884, and proceeded to revise the selections so made, considering objections urged by various correspondents; 206 were finally adopted and the Committee adjourned after making due arrangements for its publication by Messrs. James Campbell & Sons. The report of the Committee was duly presented to the General Assembly at its meeting in the city of Toronto on June 5, when the Assembly agreed to adopt its recommendations, to thank the Committee for their diligence, to express satisfaction at the near completion of the Sabbath School Hymnal and recommend its general introduction into the Sabbath schools of the Church, to call attention to the announcement of the Committee respecting the proposed tonic sol-fa edition of the Hymnal, and approve of the Committee's resolution as to its issue, and to re-appoint the

Committee, and, further, that the General Assembly hereby record their grateful sense of the generous permission of the Free Church of Scotland to this Church to publish free of all claims for royalty the Psalter with Music lately prepared by the Free Church Committee on Psalmody under the musical editorship of Dr. Hopkins.

During the year preceding the meeting of the General Assembly in 1885, the Committee published the Children's Hymnal for use in Sabbath Schools, one edition with melody alone at 5 cents per copy, and a harmonized edition at 35 cents per copy. Both editions met with the cordial approval of the Church, upwards of 30,000 copies of the 5 cents edition being sold within six months after publication, and 1,000 copies of the harmonized edition. The revision of the harmonized edition of the Children's Hymnal was kindly undertaken by the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell.

The Committee were also able to complete their arrangements for the publication of an edition of the Psalter with Music prepared by the Free Church of Scotland, who kindly consented to forgo the royalty received on editions sold in Canada.

Considerable work was done on a tonic sol-fa

edition of the Hymnal, which the Committee agreed to publish, and they reported to the General Assembly in 1885 that it would possibly be ready in a month or two, and called attention to the fact that the price (80 cents per copy) would scarcely meet the cost of publication unless at least two or three thousand copies were sold. As it was necessary to employ a special editor to transpose the ordinary notation into the tonic sol-fa form, the late Dr. Jenkins, joint Convener, then resident in England, was charged with the supervision of this work, which he very kindly undertook, adding thereby to the many valuable services rendered by him to the Committee.

Messrs. James Campbell & Sons, who up to this time had been the publishers of the Committee, and to whose enterprise and energy they had been deeply indebted, having ceased to act in this capacity, temporary arrangements were made for the carrying on of the work with the firm of Campbell & Middlemiss. This necessitated pecuniary engagements on behalf of the Committee, and added considerably to the labours of the Secretary-Treasurer, but the temporary arrangements thus made turned out to work very satisfactorily.

These facts were fully reported to the General

Assembly of 1885, who unanimously adopted the recommendations sent in by the Committee as follows:—(1) That the Assembly authorize the Hymnal Committee which may be appointed for the ensuing year to call for tenders for the publication of such editions of the larger Hymnals and also of the Children's Hymnals as they may deem necessary, and to enter into a contract for the publication of the same for a term of years. (2) That the Assembly further authorize the issue of a tonic sol-fa edition of the Children's Hymnal should the Committee deem it advisable.

The tonic sol-fa edition of the Church Hymnal was completed shortly after the meeting of Assembly, and during the year the Committee entered into a contract with Mr. C. Blackett Robinson to publish for seven years the Sabbath School and other Hymnals. The sum of \$3500.00 was paid for the plates, which thus became the property of the Committee. Under the new arrangement entered into the publisher had to pay for their use, according to the number of copies printed from time to time, such an amount as would recoup the Committee for their original cost by the time they would be worn out. The Committee, in making their report to the Assembly in 1886, called attention to the small

sales of the tonic sol-fa edition, amounting to only about 450 copies. The expenses during this period of transition from one publisher to another, together with the small amount of royalty received, prevented the payment of any moneys to the Church Treasurer in aid of the funds to which they were to be applied.

The first year under the new régime was eminently successful, 41,400 copies of the various editions being sold, thus relieving to a large extent the financial strain on the Committee.

The second year the sales fell to 28,248 copies. At the meeting of the Assembly this year (1888) it was remitted to the Committee to consider whether an enlargement of the Sabbath School Hymnal was desirable or practicable within the provision of the existing contract with the publisher, as also, if practicable, the issuing without delay of an edition of the Sabbath School Hymnal, or part of it, in the tonic sol-fa notation.

At the meeting of the Assembly in 1889, the Committee were able to report a very large increase in the sale of the various editions of the Hymnal, three times the number sold the previous year, namely, 47,906 Hymnals and 20,000 Sabbath School Hymnals. A tonic sol-fa edition of the Sabbath School Hymnal was

issued, the Rev. James Anderson of Musquodoboit Harbour having kindly superintended the publication. The additional fifty hymns to be added to the collection in the Children's Hymnal were selected, and the Committee reported to the Assembly of 1890 that the enlarged edition of the Sabbath School edition had been published and would shortly be ready for distribution. They also reported sales of 46,962 copies of the Hymnal, and 11,150 of the Sabbath School Hymnal, and recommended the payment to the Church Treasurer of the sum of \$1000.00 to be devoted to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, the first payment the Committee had been in a position to make for several years.

The following sales were reported to the General Assembly in 1891: namely 27,493 copies of the Hymnal, 13,421 copies of the enlarged Sabbath School Hymnal, and 2,000 copies of the old Hymnal including the tonic sol-fa edition.

The General Assembly of 1892 instructed the Committee to consider the question of enlarging or revising the Hymnal, and authorized them to confer with the Hymnal Committees of sister Presbyterian Churches with regard to a common Hymnal, and instructed them to report to the next

Assembly. This action was based on the fact that the contract for the publication of the Church Hymnals would expire in the succeeding month of January. The Committee reported the sale of 25,765 copies of the Hymnals, 17,542 of the enlarged Sabbath School Hymnal, and 1,332 of the Harmonized Sabbath School Hymnal. They also referred to the fact that a large number of the old harmonized edition had been presented to Sabbath Schools on whose behalf application had been made.

Acting on the instructions thus received the Committee at once took action and held several meetings in Crescent Street Church, Montreal, during the sitting of the Assembly, and afterwards in St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, from December 14 to 21, and having decided that it was in the best interests of the Church that the present Hymnal should be enlarged and revised, proceeded with the work of revision. They also took up the question of a common Hymnal as remitted to them, and took advantage of the meeting of the Presbyterian Council in Toronto to arrange a conference on this subject with representatives from the various churches. The Conference was held in the Lecture-room of Knox Church, Toronto, on

September 29, 1892, when members of the Committee, and delegates to the Presbyterian Council from the Church of Scotland, the Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church in England, and the Presbyterian Church in Australia, met and had a free interchange of opinion on the subject.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted :—

‘ In the judgement of this meeting, it is very desirable to secure a common Hymnal for the churches in the British Empire holding the Presbyterian system, and it is agreed to appoint a committee to prepare a statement to be communicated to the supreme courts of the churches here represented, and to correspond at once with Hymnal Committees (where such exist) in the several churches in order to have the matter of a common Hymnal brought under the notice of the Courts at as early a date as possible, and to take any other steps necessary to secure the object in view.’

In accordance with this resolution a committee was appointed and by its instructions a circular was issued on February 23, 1893, a copy of which was reported to the General Assembly of that year.

Pending the decision of the General Assembly regarding a revised edition, the Committee extended the contract with the publisher for one year from December 31, 1892.

The Committee reported to the Assembly of 1893 the sale of 23,303 copies of the Hymnal, 12,399 copies of the new edition of the Children's Hymnal, of which 662 were copies of the Harmonized edition. They also reported the findings of the Committee which were as follows, based upon its decision that the Hymnal should be enlarged and revised :—

1. That selections from the Psalms and Paraphrases should be incorporated with the Hymnal.

2. That the Psalms should if necessary be with new versions, and

3. That some of the present hymns should be dropped and others added.

They further reported that it was the judgement of the Committee that the selections from the Psalms should form the first part of the revised Hymnal, and that the remaining selections should be topically arranged as in the present Hymnal with a division added of hymns for meditation and instruction; and, moreover, that there should be appended a limited number of the simple anthems.

A list of proposed changes and additions accompanied the report, which it was proposed should be sent to Presbyteries with instructions to report upon them through the Hymnal Committee on or before January 1, 1894.

When the report was under consideration it was moved by Dr. Cochrane in amendment to the first recommendation: 'That the Committee be instructed to include the entire Psalter in the proposed New Book of Praise.' The said amendment was carried and affirmed as the judgement of the Assembly, but on the motion of Principal Cavan it was resolved that this deliverance be sent down to Presbyteries for their consideration.

The reports from Presbyteries having been sent in, it was found that returns from thirty-seven Presbyteries had been received. These were considered at meetings of the Committee held in Toronto on May 16, 17, 18, 1894, called to proceed with the work of preparing a revised and enlarged Hymnal. Considerable progress was made in the work of the Committee, and the following sub-Committees were appointed before its adjournment:—Rev. G. C. Heine (Convener), Rev. Dr. Armstrong, and Messrs. R. A. Becket and James Gibson, to prepare selec-

tions of the Psalms for chanting ; Rev. J. Anderson to prepare an Index of first lines ; the Convener and Mr. W. B. McMurrich to prepare a report for the Assembly setting forth the findings at which the Committee had arrived, and the Executive Committee were charged with the duty of considering the question of a suitable publisher, and the best steps to be adopted for bringing out in the best possible manner the Book of Praise.

As the findings of the Committee, which were the basis on which the Book of Praise was subsequently issued, were fully repeated to the General Assembly during the following month, it is desirable that they should be set forth in full. They were as follows:—

I. *Common Hymnal*.—On the subject of a Common Hymnal it was found from correspondence with the Joint Committee of the Church of Scotland, the Free Church, and the United Presbyterian Church, engaged in the preparation of a Common Hymnal for these Churches, that some progress has been made in the provisional selection of Hymns, and that the Joint Committee asked for co-operation with them by the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It was resolved (1) That the work already accomplished by your Committee be forwarded to

the said Joint Committee, asking that the said Committee would in like manner reciprocate as their work goes forward ; and (2) That power be asked from the Assembly for the Committee to take such action as they may from time to time deem necessary, in concert with the said Joint Committee, as may ensure at an early date the issue of a Common Hymnal for the said three Churches, and the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Committee, therefore, recommend the General Assembly to grant the power asked for to co-operate with the Joint Committee of the Scottish Churches.

II. *Book of Psalms*.—In regard to the Book of Psalms the Committee find that twenty-nine Presbyteries declared in favour of retaining the whole Psalter. This is in harmony with the judgement of the Committee. They therefore recommend that the whole Psalter, that is the 150 Psalms now in common use, be retained as part of the Book of Praise.

III. *Selections and new versions of Psalms*.—In regard to new versions of and selections from the Psalms, the Committee find that an addition of some new versions is deemed desirable by twenty-two Presbyteries, and that eleven Presbyteries reported in favour of selections from the common and other versions. In the unanimous

judgement of the Committee it was deemed desirable that such selections should be made. They have accordingly revised the selections made by the Committee last year, availing themselves of suggestions by Presbyteries, and agreed to submit full copies of the revised selections (including new versions) to the General Assembly with the recommendation that these, if approved or revised, should form the first part of the new Hymnal.

IV. *Paraphrases*.—In regard to the Paraphrases the Committee find that it is the general opinion of Presbyteries that selections from these should be incorporated with the hymns of the new Hymnal. This accords with the judgement of the Committee. They have therefore revised the selections submitted last year in general conformity with suggestions made by Presbyteries, and have agreed to recommend that such selections should be incorporated with the new Hymnal.

V. *Hymns*.—In regard to hymns, the Committee have devoted lengthened and careful consideration to the views reported by Presbyteries. In general accordance with these views they have revised the list of hymns proposed to be omitted, added, or altered. They have also agreed to classify the new list of hymns under

their appropriate heads, and to print copies of the new Hymnal as revised by the Committee, to be submitted to the General Assembly with the recommendation that it be sent for consideration to the Presbyteries of the Church, with instructions that they report their views respecting it on or before March 1, 1895, through the Hymnal Committee.

VI. *Complete Collection*.—It was agreed by the Committee to recommend that the complete collection should be called 'Book of Praise,' and should include (1) The whole of the Psalms in the metrical version now in use ; (2) Selections from the prose version of the Psalms and other portions of Scripture for chanting ; (3) Selections from the Psalms in the ordinary metrical version and in other versions ; (4) Hymns approved and adopted by the Assembly ; (5) Scripture sentences.

VII. *Editions*.—The Committee agreed to recommend that every edition of the Book of Praise authorized by the Assembly should contain either the whole Psalter or the selections agreed on.

VIII. *Children's Hymnal*.—With reference to a Children's Hymnal it was found that eleven Presbyteries advised that, mainly on account of cost, there should be a separate Children's

Hymnal. Your Committee were unanimous in recommending that there should be one Book of Praise for Church and School. They had reason to believe that an edition containing selections from the Psalms and the whole of the hymns could be published at a cost that will bring the work within reach of all our Sabbath schools, as well as other organizations of our Church.

IX. *Indices, &c.*—The Committee agreed to recommend, (1) That the Hymnal should be so indexed as to indicate hymns specially suitable for children; (2) That the Psalm selections be numbered separately from the hymns; and (3) That pages be uniform in all editions. As part of their report, the Committee submit to the Assembly a draft copy of the 'Book of Praise,' so far as completed.

The Report came before the General Assembly held at the City of St. John, and within St. David's Church there, on June 15, 1894, and was adopted with the following changes.

The following recommendation was substituted for No. VII.

'That no book containing any portion of the materials included in the Book of Praise shall receive the imprimatur of the General Assembly unless it contains either the whole Psalter or the

selections from the Psalms which shall be approved by the Assembly.'

It was also directed, 'That the Book of Praise, including the 150 Psalms, selections, and hymns submitted to the General Assembly, be sent down to Presbyteries for consideration, with instruction that they report their views respecting it on or before March 1, 1895, through the Hymnal Committee, with a view to its submission to the next General Assembly.'

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Hymnal Committee, and especially to the Convener, Dr. Gregg, for their excellent report and for their arduous labours in bringing the proposed new Book of Praise so near completion.

The Committee reported the following sales, 15,076 copies of Church Hymnal and 12,491 copies of Children's Hymnal, and free distribution of 1,574 copies of the tonic sol-fa edition of the Children's Hymnal.

At a meeting of the Committee held during the Assembly, the Rev. Dr. Jenkins was asked to represent the Committee in conferring with the Joint Committee of the Churches in Scotland, and the Committee gave power to the Executive to authorize other members to go to Scotland, to act with him, if this were found possible. The Secretary was also instructed to

ask for copies of the draft hymnal prepared by the Joint Committee of the Scottish Churches.

Towards the end of the year it was deemed advisable to notify Mr. C. Blackett Robinson that his contract would not be renewed, and the Committee decided to be their own publishers until other arrangements were made. A Committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Gregg, Convener, and Messrs. J. G. Stuart, J. Thorn, J. Henderson, and W. B. McMurich, were appointed to make all necessary arrangements for the starting of an office and to settle all necessary details.

This led to the renting of a room in Toronto Chambers, Toronto Street, and the appointment of Mr. George Burns as manager of the business of the Committee, for the term of one year from January 1, 1895: the manager to have full charge of the room, and entire supervision of the publishing and selling of the various editions of the Hymnal, subject to the control of the Convener, Dr. Gregg, and the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. W. B. McMurich, and to look to the latter for his instructions.

In the early part of the year the Committee had appointed a Sub-Committee on Music, consisting of Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell (Convener), Alex. MacMillan (Secretary), W. T. Herridge,

J. Thomson, J. A. Anderson, G. C. Heine, W. B. McMurich, and R. A. Becket, and to this number was added Dr. John Somerville, who was subsequently appointed.

To this Committee was entrusted the preparation of the musical editions of the Book of Praise, in which was included a selection of tunes and compilation of musical indexes. The Committee met from time to time in Toronto, the first session being held in the lecture-room of St. Andrew's Church, on November 28, 1894. From this date until the completion of the work the Committee met frequently, and prosecuted their labours with the utmost diligence and enthusiasm.

In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly in 1894, some twenty-three returns were received from Presbyteries during the month of February, 1895, and were carefully considered, at meetings of the Committee held from the 12th of the succeeding month of March, and further revision of the Book of Praise was made in terms of these recommendations. Twelve Presbyteries also sent in returns but not in time to be considered at these meetings. At the meeting held on March 13th the following were appointed a Committee to consider the most suitable litanies to be included

in the Book of Praise:—Dr. Somerville, Convener, and Messrs. Macdonnell, Heine, Murray, and MacMillan, who reported on the morning of the 14th and their recommendations were approved and the litanies reported and put in as hymns in their proper places.

A letter having been received from the Rev. Dr. Henderson of Crief, the Convener of the Joint Committee in Scotland, intimating inferentially that they were under the impression that it was not the wish of the Canadian Church to co-operate in the preparation of a Common Hymnal, the said letter was remitted to a Committee consisting of the Rev. Dr. Gregg, Convener, and Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell, R. S. G. Anderson, R. Murray, and M. Mc Gillivray to frame a suitable reply. The Committee reported at the last sederunt, when it was moved by Dr. Maclaren, seconded by Mr. J. H. Thom, that a courteous reply be sent to the communication of Dr. Henderson correcting as far as possible the evident misapprehension with regard to the action of the Canadian Committee.

It was moved in amendment by the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, seconded by Mr. James Anderson, 'That we communicate by cable with the Secretary of the Joint Committee in Scot-

land, expressing regret for the misunderstanding that has arisen, stating that we still desire co-operation, and informing him that a member had been appointed to confer with the Committee at Edinburgh on the 25th instant.' The amendment was declared lost, and the main motion was carried.

It was at this general meeting of the Committee that the first step was taken towards the revision of the metrical edition of the whole Psalter, by the adoption of a resolution introduced by Prof. Scrimger, seconded by the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, providing that the Committee recommend to the Assembly the advisability of revising the metrical version of the whole Psalter and adding other suitable versions with a view to removing the difficulties in the way of their being more generally used in public worship.

The Executive Committee were appointed a Committee to prepare a report to the Assembly, stating their findings in respect to the returns from Presbyteries and other matters submitted to them. Drs. Somerville and Fraser were appointed a Committee to prepare Indices, and Messrs. Beckett and Heine to prepare an Index of Tunes.

On the question of copyright it was resolved

that the Rev. Drs. Gregg and Jenkins be authorized to correspond regarding same and that the copyright be issued in the names of Dr. Gregg and the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell.

The Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, who had from the beginning been the Convener of the sub-Committee on Tunes, and filled the office with great ability and general satisfaction, having intimated to the Committee that owing to failing health and the pressure of other work, which demanded his full time and attention, he could no longer act, tendered his resignation of the office. It was accepted with sincere regret, and the Rev. A. MacMillan was appointed in his place.

At a session of the Music Committee held in Toronto on March 15, 1895, it was unanimously agreed that Messrs. Beckett, Heine, Herridge, MacMillan and Thomson should be appointed an Editorial Committee with Mr. Beckett as Convener to take charge of the music and harmonies, with power to employ such assistance as they should see fit for the carrying out of the work.

On March 19, 1895, the Executive Committee were called together to consider the propriety of sending representatives to Scotland to attend the meeting of the Joint Committee there. This

was the result of action taken by the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell subsequent to the meeting of the General Committee. Deeply impressed with the value to the Church of a common Hymnal, and desirous of attaining, if possible, such a result, and at the same time of dissipating any misunderstanding that might have arisen as to the action of the Canadian Church, he had cabled to Dr. Henderson, of Crieff: 'Regret misunderstanding, desire co-operation. How long will joint committee sit. Would Canadian sailing Wednesday be received.' To this he had received the following reply: 'Committee meets 25th, again 1st or 8th April. Your representative welcome.' After due consideration it was unanimously resolved to send representatives to the April meeting, and the following motion, moved by Mr. J. G. Stuart, seconded by Dr. Maclaren, was adopted: 'That the Executive Committee having ascertained that the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.D., and the Rev. A. MacMillan will likely be able to attend the meeting of the Joint Hymnal Committee of the Churches of Scotland to be held in April, resolve, in accordance with the resolution of the General Hymnal Committee held at St. John, N.B., in June last, to authorize the said members of the Committee to represent the

Committee in conferring with the Joint Committee in reference to a common Hymnal.'

All necessary arrangements having been made, these two representatives duly sailed, arriving in time to take part at the meetings of the Joint Committee held in Edinburgh on April 1, 8, and 9.

The proceedings of the year were so important, and were so fully reported to the General Assembly when it met in June, 1895, that these reports, covering not only the work of the Committee on the Book of Praise but that of the Joint Committee, are given in full.

REPORT OF HYMNAL COMMITTEE.

The Hymnal Committee beg to report their proceedings in carrying on, during the past year, the work entrusted to them by the General Assembly. Two meetings of the General Committee were held, one in St. John, N.B., on June 21, 1894, and another in 1895, in Toronto. At the first meeting some action was taken regarding the Draft Book of Praise submitted to the Assembly and also regarding co-operation with the Churches in Scotland in preparing a common Hymnal for all the Presbyterian Churches in the British Empire.

At the second meeting, which was continued during the mornings, afternoons, and evenings of three successive days, the chief business transacted was the consideration of returns regarding the Draft Book of Praise ordered to be made by Presbyteries before March 1. From twenty-three Presbyteries returns were received and carefully considered. From twelve other Presbyteries returns were afterwards received by the Convener, but were too late to be considered by the Committee in March.

Book of Psalms.—It appeared from the returns that nearly all the Presbyteries, which had reported, recommended that in the Book of Praise the whole 150 Psalms in the common metrical version should be retained. This was in accordance with the decision of Assembly and the recommendation of the Committee of last year. The Committee unanimously agreed to repeat this recommendation.

The Committee further unanimously agreed to recommend the General Assembly to call the attention of ministers, sessions, and congregations to the importance of making regular use of the Psalms in the public services of the Church.

In regard to the Book of Psalms the Com-

mittee still further agreed to recommend the Assembly to consider the advisability of revising the metrical version of the whole Psalter and adding other suitable versions, with a view to removing difficulties in the way of the Psalms being more generally used in public worship.

Selections from the Psalms.—From the returns received and considered by the Committee, it appeared that the resolution adopted by the last General Assembly in favour of incorporating in the New Hymnal selections from the common metrical and other versions of the Psalms, was acquiesced in by a large majority of Presbyteries. The incorporation of selections was favoured by fifteen and opposed by five Presbyteries. Of Presbyteries whose reports were received after the meeting in March there were seven in favour of, and four opposed to, the incorporation of selections.

Suggestions were made by most of the Presbyteries of additions to the selections reported last year, and the Committee agreed to make some additions. These will be found in the Appendix to this report. The Committee agreed to recommend the incorporation of the additions along with the selections reported last year.

Hymns and Paraphrases.—It was found from

the reports that on the part of Presbyteries there was a very general approval of the selections of Hymns and Paraphrases submitted to the last General Assembly. Most of the Presbyteries recommended some additions, omissions or alterations. In general accordance with these recommendations the Committee, after lengthened and careful consideration, agreed to recommend several additions, omissions and changes, which will be found in the Appendix, and to recommend for the approval of the Assembly the collection of Hymns and Paraphrases with the specified alterations.

Tunes, Indices, &c.—Sub-Committees were appointed to select tunes and prepare indices, &c. These Committees have, with great labour, prosecuted the work assigned to them, and completed it as far as it was practicable.

Common Hymnal.—In accordance with resolutions of previous Assemblies, steps were taken by the Committee towards securing a Common Hymnal for all the Presbyterian Churches in the British Empire. Correspondence was held with the Joint Committee of the Churches in Scotland. Copies of our Draft Hymnal were sent to this Committee last September with the request that copies of their Draft Hymnal should be sent to the Committee in Canada.

In June of last year, Dr. Jenkins, now residing in England, was appointed to represent our Committee in conference with the Joint Committee in Scotland. In March last, the Revs. D. J. Macdonnell and A. MacMillan were appointed additional representatives, and these two brethren were welcomed by and took part with the Joint Committee in preparing and revising the Draft of a Common Hymnal, to be submitted to the Supreme Courts of the Churches in Scotland. Copies of this Hymnal reached this country a few days ago, and it is intended that it should be submitted for consideration to the Committee of the Assembly here. It contains a large number of the best Hymns found in our Draft Hymnal, but differs from it chiefly in these two particulars—that it does not incorporate any selections from the Paraphrases, and does not contain a large number of what are usually called Evangelistic Hymns, which are found in our Draft Hymnal. The number of Hymns in the Draft Common Hymnal is 557. This is about the same number as those of our Draft Hymnal, less the selections of Paraphrases and Evangelistic Hymns.

In the Report of the Joint Hymnal Committee it is stated that they do not regard their work in the selection of Hymns as complete, and that

they propose that members of the Supreme Courts of the Churches should be requested to send suggestions to them not later than the 1st of October next, with a view to the presenting of a finally revised Draft to the Supreme Courts for approval in May, 1896.

Future Action.—It will be seen from the preceding part of this report that the Committee, in accordance with instructions of the Assembly, have been engaged in the twofold work of endeavouring to secure a Common Hymnal for all the British Presbyterian Churches, and of endeavouring to prepare a separate Hymnal for the Church in Canada. It now remains for the Assembly to decide whether they shall await the completion of a Common Hymnal, or proceed, without further delay, to publish the Canadian Draft Book of Praise with such amendments as may be deemed proper. As no general meeting of the Committee has been held since copies of the Draft Common Hymnal reached this country, no opinion as to what is best to be done is now submitted, but a supplementary report in regard to this matter may be submitted during the meeting of Assembly.

Arrangements for Publication.—The contract for the publication and sale of the Psalter and Hymnal having expired on the first of last January,

the Committee judged it expedient to take into their own hands the publication and sale of these books. They accordingly rented a room and appointed Mr. George B. Burns to manage the business in the meantime. The results have been as satisfactory as could have been expected in the present unsettled state of our affairs.

Finances.—From the Treasurer's statement, which is appended, it will be seen that the income of the Committee, during the year, has been comparatively small, while there has been an unusually large expenditure. The largest portion of the expenditure has been incurred in payments of printing the Draft Book of Praise and other documents and in connexion with the meetings of the General and Sub-Committees. A considerable debt has thus been incurred which, it is hoped, will be more than fully met before next meeting of Assembly. The number of Congregational Hymnals of all kinds issued during the year was 9,504, and of Sabbath School Hymnals, 10,300.

WILLIAM GREGG,

Convener.

TORONTO, May 31, 1895.

REPORT OF MEMBERS OF HYMNAL COMMITTEE
APPOINTED TO CONFER WITH THE JOINT
HYMNAL COMMITTEE IN SCOTLAND.

Your representatives were both present at meetings of the Joint Committee of the Church of Scotland, the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church, held on April 1, in Edinburgh, and April 8 and 9 in Glasgow. Mr. MacMillan was also present at the final meeting of the same Committee in Edinburgh on April 17.

They were welcomed with great cordiality and were treated with the utmost courtesy. During these meetings the time was largely taken up in a review of the draft which had been prepared and in the consideration, both of hymns recommended for insertion, and of hymns of which the omission was suggested. The fullest opportunity was given of presenting the views of the Canadian Committee on these points and in a very large number of cases the suggestions of your representatives were acted on. Many hymns were inserted at their suggestion and of sixty-three hymns which were excluded during the sessions in which they took part only nine were contained in the Canadian draft. In the revised 'Draft Hymnal'

which has been sent to members of the Hymnal Committee it will be found that there are 356 hymns out of a total of 557, common to it and to our own draft. These include the cream of modern hymns. The remaining 200 hymns in the draft of the Joint Committee are, to say the least, not inferior to the remaining hymns in our own collection. A Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee has been at work in the selection of tunes for the Common Hymnal, and so far as they have gone, there is as great similarity in the tunes selected as in the hymns. Six copies prepared by Mr. MacMillan of the tunes selected by the Canadian Committee for the 356 hymns referred to above, are now in the hands of the seven members of the Sub-Committee referred to, and the assurance has been heartily given that these decisions will be carefully weighed in connexion with the selection of tunes.

The two main points of difference between the draft of the Joint Committee and our own are :—

1. The absence of Paraphrases, and
2. The small number of Evangelistic hymns.

There will be no difficulty, however, in prefixing, in the Canadian edition, selections from the Paraphrases as well as from the Psalms and

in inserting a section containing the Evangelistic hymns which are earnestly desired by many of our people.

Your representatives are decidedly of opinion that the adoption of the Common Hymnal should be recommended to the General Assembly. There is every probability that the common book will be adopted by the three Churches in Scotland and strong likelihood that it will be accepted by the Presbyterian Church of England and also by the Australian Churches, which use the book at present in use in the Presbyterian Church of England and which will certainly follow the lead of that Church. The Churches of Australia and New Zealand will doubtless also be influenced, to a great extent, by the decision which may be reached by the Canadian Church. It would be a misfortune should the Canadian Church stand apart, when the movement initiated by our own Hymnal Committee and approved by the General Assembly for the securing of a Common Hymnal is so promising. On the ground of economy, both as to the printing of the book, securing of copyright tunes and the expense of employing a musical editor, the adoption of the Common Hymnal is to be heartily commended. The delay which may be occasioned by its

adoption is not a serious enough objection to outweigh the great benefit which will accrue from the securing of a common book of praise for English-speaking Presbyterians throughout the Empire.

Respectfully submitted.

D. J. MACDONNELL.

ALEX. MACMILLAN.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF HYMNAL COMMITTEE.

The Hymnal Committee beg to report that they held meetings at London, on June 12 and 14. The chief business for which these meetings were convened was the consideration of what action should be recommended with reference to the Draft Common Hymnal, prepared by the Joint Committee of the Churches in Scotland. Several hundred copies of this Hymnal have been presented by the Joint Committee for the consideration of the Canadian Committee and General Assembly.

In consequence of the recent date at which the copies of the Draft Common Hymnal have been placed in the hands of members of the Committee, they have not been able to give to it very full and minute consideration, but from

the partial examination given they have been gratified to find that not fewer than 350 hymns contained in it are identical with hymns in our Draft Hymnal. Many of the remaining hymns are of great excellence ; but there are some, the omission of which the Committee would for various reasons recommend. The Committee regret the absence from the Draft Common Hymnal of the comparatively large number of selected paraphrases and evangelistic hymns found in our Draft Hymnal. They trust, however, that it may yet be possible to have a large number of these included in the Common Hymnal.

The Committee, therefore, recommend :

1. Record and convey to the Joint Hymnal Committee of the Scottish Presbyterian Churches their appreciation of the cordial reception given to the representatives of this Church at their recent meetings, and their thanks for the generous donation of copies of the Draft Hymnal.

2. Reaffirm the desirability of securing, if at all possible, a Common Hymnal for the Presbyterian Churches of the British Empire, and express their great gratification at the progress already made in this direction.

3. Postpone in the meantime further action

with reference to the publication of a Book of Praise for this Church : instruct the Hymnal Committee to continue co-operation with the Joint Hymnal Committee of the Scottish Churches in completing the Common Hymnal, and to endeavour to secure the inclusion of such hymns and music in the Common Hymnal as shall meet the views of this Church as signified in returns from Presbyteries ; and to report for final action to the next General Assembly.

WM. GREGG,

LONDON, *June 14*, 1895.

Convener.

The several reports were duly received by the Assembly, and the following recommendations passed :—

1. Record and convey to the Joint Hymnal Committee of the Scottish Presbyterian Churches their appreciation of the cordial reception given to the representatives of this Church, at the recent meetings of the Committee, and their thanks for the generous donation of copies of the draft hymnal.

2. Reaffirm the desirability of securing, if at all possible, a Common Hymnal for the Presbyterian Churches of the British Empire, and express their great gratification at the progress already made in this direction.

3. Postpone, in the meantime, further action with reference to the publication of a Book of Praise for this Church; instruct the Hymnal Committee to continue co-operation with the Joint Hymnal Committee of the Scottish Churches in completing the Common Hymnal, to endeavour to secure the inclusion of such hymns and music in the Common Hymnal as shall meet the views of this Church, as signified in the returns from Presbyteries, and to report for final action to the next General Assembly.

4. The Committee further unanimously agree to recommend the General Assembly to call the attention of ministers, sessions, and congregations to the importance of making regular use of the Psalms in the public services of the Church.

5. That the members of the Hymnal Committee residing in Toronto be appointed an Executive Hymnal Committee.

6. That the Committee be authorized to make arrangements for the publication and sale of the Hymnal of the Church.

The Committee resumed their labours on September 11, 1895, continuing in session for two days, considering the hymns contained in the Common Hymnal. All the members felt keenly the absence of the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell

through illness, and the following resolution was passed and forwarded to him :—‘ The members of the Hymnal Committee of the General Assembly deeply regret the absence through illness of their dear brother the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell. They thank him for the assurance that he is with them in spirit, yet they feel keenly the lack of his valuable suggestions and indefatigable exertions in the work on which he has expended so much labour. The Committee express their deep and sincere sympathy with him in his sufferings, and pray God will give him all needed grace while His afflicting hand continues to rest upon him, and trust that if it be God’s will he may soon be restored to health and be able to resume the many duties he has heretofore discharged so earnestly and faithfully.’

At the earnest solicitations of the Committee Mr. Macdonnell had withdrawn his resignation of the Convenership of the Tunes sub-committee, and continued to occupy the position until his much lamented death, the Rev. Dr. Somerville acting in his place in his absence.

At the conclusion of the revision of the Common Hymnal by the Committee, it was agreed to appoint the Convener, with Messrs. MacMillan, Anderson, and McMurich, a Com-

mittee to prepare a memorandum of the recommendations passed, and have same forwarded as early as possible to the Joint Hymnal Committee in Scotland.

The forwarding of these recommendations led to considerable correspondence between the Convener and Dr. Henderson of Crieff, so that it was not until the month of March, in reply to a letter sent by the Convener, Dr. Gregg, inquiring specifically as to the action taken by the Joint Committee in reference to the recommendation of the Canadian Church, and whether the Common Hymnal was sufficiently advanced to allow of its approval at the ensuing meetings of the respective Churches in General Assembly, that definite information was received.

With the letter received was transmitted a newly revised copy of the draft Common Hymnal, with copies of a supplement containing lists of several hymns proposed to be omitted and of a larger number proposed to be added.

The General Committee was at once called together and met on April 8, 1896, remaining in session until the close of the 11th.

On examination of the changes proposed by the Joint Committee, the Committee felt disappointed by finding that they were very little in accordance with their views either in regard



REV. D. J. MACDONNELL, B.D.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON MUSIC

to omissions or additions. Several hymns common to the two previous drafts which the Canadian Committee wished to retain, they proposed to omit ; a much larger number which the Committee wished added to the Common Hymnal they would not accept, while the Committee were unwilling to accept by far the larger number of hymns they proposed to add. Under these circumstances it was resolved to proceed to complete the Committee's own Book of Praise for presentation to the General Assembly.

The lamented death of the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell having occurred on February 19, the following minute was placed on the records of the Committee :—

‘At this their first meeting since the death of the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell the Hymnal Committee record their profound sense of the loss sustained by the Church as a whole and especially by this Committee through this dispensation of Providence. Mr. Macdonnell was an active member of the Committee since its first appointment in 1878 and brought to bear upon the work his indomitable energy, his fine sense, and his intimate knowledge of hymnology. The Committee cannot speak too gratefully of his genial and unstinted hospitality and his unfailing courtesy and kindness. He took a leading

part in the movement to prepare a common hymnal for the Presbyterian Churches, and so great was his interest in the project that last year he went to Scotland to represent this Committee at the meeting of the Joint Committee. His sympathy and aid were extended as opportunity offered to other departments of the Church's work, but he took special delight in promoting the glory of God through the service of praise. His voice can no longer be heard in the meetings of the Committee, but the charm and influence of past intercourse are still profoundly felt. While the Committee deeply mourn the removal of their beloved and revered brother, and at every step of their work lament his absence, they rejoice in the assurance that he has entered upon his rest and joy which are the reward of faithful service.'

The Rev. A. MacMillan was appointed Convener of the sub-committee on tunes, in place of the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell deceased.

The loss of the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell to the Music Committee was felt by every member very deeply, for notwithstanding the gravity of his illness he continued to the last to take the keenest interest in this part of the work. This feeling was given expression to in the preface to the Music Edition in these words.



REV. ALEX. MACMILLAN
CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE ON MUSIC

‘The Music Committee would place on record their profound sense of the loss sustained in the very midst of their work in the removal by death of their beloved Convener, the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.D. They remember with gratitude to God those qualities which rendered him so valuable a member, notably a sensitive perception of the qualities of tunes, together with an unfailing devotion to a work in which he ever felt a peculiar interest.’

The report of the Committee to the Assembly of 1896 embodied the above recommendation. In their supplementary report of June 11 they asked—

1. That the Book of Praise, the work of their Committee, with music selected, be adopted, and the Committee authorized to proceed with its publication after any necessary revision thereof.

2. That the Committee be authorized to co-operate with any other Presbyterian Church, or Churches, in preparing a revised and improved metrical version of the whole Psalter for the use of Congregations.

They reported also the sale of 10,546 Congregational Hymnals, and 6,729 Sabbath School Hymnals.

The recommendations of the Committee were

adopted by the Assembly, together with the following motions relating thereto.

1. That it be remitted to the Hymnal Committee, to direct their attention to the selections from the Psalms, proposed to be embraced in the Book of Praise, with the view of making such additions to the selection as shall render it more fully representative of the great richness and variety of the Book of Psalms; these additions to be made with such moderate changes in the version of the portions selected as shall commend themselves to the judgement of the Committee.

2. That it be an instruction of the Assembly to the Hymnal Committee, so to revise, if practicable, the version of the whole Psalter to be included in the Book of Praise, as that there shall in no case be a difference between the version used in the selections and that used in the whole Psalter.

Immediately following the decision of the Assembly, the Committee met at the Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto, on June 17, 1896, and proceeded to make the necessary arrangements for the publication of the Book of Praise. The following were appointed as the Editorial Committee: Rev. Dr. Gregg (Convener), Dr. Maclaren, Dr. Fraser, Dr. Somerville,

and Messrs. A. MacMillan, J. A. Macdonnell, W. J. Dey, Robert Murray, Joseph Henderson, James Gibson, John H. Thorn, Dr. W. B. Geikie, and W. B. McMurrich, with power to carefully and critically revise the text of the hymns with a view to correct any verbal inaccuracies and any needless departures from the original text, conduct correspondence in regard to copyright hymns, and generally oversee the work.

It was further agreed that the copyright for the Book of Praise for hymns and tunes should be secured in the names of the Rev. Dr. Gregg and W. B. McMurrich, to be held by them in trust for the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The sub-committee on tunes and the Musical Editing Committee were also re-appointed. The Executive Committee were named as the Publishing Committee.

At the meeting of the following day, in accordance with the recommendation adopted by the Assembly, Dr. Scrimger, Robert Murray, and W. J. Dey were appointed a committee to act with similar committees of other Churches for the revision of the Psalter, and in the event of any of these being unable to attend, the Executive Committee was granted power to appoint a substitute.

Towards July 1 of this year (1896) everything was in readiness for the calling of tenders for the publication of the Book of Praise, and the necessary advertisements therefore appeared in the *Globe*, and *Mail* and *Empire*. The Canadian tenders to be in by July 18, and those from Great Britain by the 31st of the same month. The tenders were duly sent in, but were not opened until September 4, 1896, and on October 2 following, after mature consideration of the information received in the interval, the offer of the Oxford University Press to act as publisher was accepted, on the basis of its paying the Committee a royalty on the retail price of the editions to be issued, and Mr. S. G. Wilkinson, its representative, was so notified.

At a subsequent meeting of the Executive Committee held on October 19, the question of the advisability of sending one or more members of the Committee to London to see to the preliminary arrangements and to carry out the work necessary to publication was considered, and it was thought advisable to do so. Accordingly the Executive appointed Dr. Somerville and the Rev. A. MacMillan to proceed to England for this purpose. At the same meeting the Convener and Mr. W. B. McMurrich were authorized to make such arrangements as they deemed best

to close up the business carried on by the Committee at their office in Toronto Chambers.

The Editorial Committee of the General Committee completed its labours at a session held in Montreal early in November, 1896. The manuscript of the music editions was thereafter placed in the hands of Dr. J. Somerville and Mr. A. MacMillan, the representatives appointed by the Executive of the Hymnal Committee, to supervise the publication of the various editions. Instructions were at the same time given to the representatives to make any further corrections necessary, substitute tunes in any cases in which serious copyright difficulties might arise, complete negotiations as to copyright, convey the manuscripts to England, and supervise publication there. The preparation of alphabetical and metrical Indices of Tunes was committed to Mr. MacMillan.

Dr. Somerville and Mr. MacMillan reached London on the evening of December 9, 1896, and immediately thereafter entered upon their work.

At a conference with Mr. Henry Frowde, Mr. Horace Hart, Controller of the Press, and Mr. S. G. Wilkinson, many points connected with publication were considered. Amongst these it was determined that Caxton type

should be used as headlines in all editions, that marks of expression should be included in all editions, and that the type of letters and notes of the various editions should be as now found. The styles of binding were immediately thereafter determined, this being followed by the arduous task of arranging the manuscript of the music editions page by page, that the music might be placed in most suitable relation to the words. Final correction of manuscript, the reading and correcting of proofs, preparation of indexes, and final negotiations as to questions of copyright thereafter occupied their fullest attention.

Every facility for the prosecution of these departments of work was placed at their disposal by Mr. Frowde and those associated with him, and every courtesy was shown. For a time the representatives worked in the publication offices of the Oxford Press in Paternoster Row, London, but afterwards in Oxford and in Edinburgh.

From the date of their arrival in Edinburgh very valuable assistance was rendered in connexion with the revision of proofs, harmonies, and questions as to the identity of composers and sources, by the late Miss Margaret MacMillan, Mr. J. O. Anderson of Edinburgh, and Mr. Lane

of Falkirk. This assistance was continued until the completion of the work, the representatives being obliged to return to Canada whilst the editions were still passing through the press.

After the return of the representatives to Canada, proofs were sent to Edinburgh, and thence to Toronto. In so far as time permitted, necessary alterations were made and sent by mail. When time did not permit, cable messages were sent. These details, from amongst many others which might be given, serve to give an idea of the magnitude of the task committed to the Hymnal Committee even in the matter of the final issue of the book.

At last, by the middle of May, 1897, advance copies of the various editions of the Presbyterian Book of Praise reached Toronto in time for presentation to the General Assembly, which met the following month in Winnipeg. On accepting and adopting the report of the Hymnal Committee, the General Assembly approved and commended the work done.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee held on the 24th September, 1897, it was moved by Dr. W. B. Geikie, seconded by Dr. Maclaren, and unanimously resolved : That the Committee has very great pleasure in recording its high appreciation of the exceedingly satisfactory way

in which the Oxford University Press, London, England has, through Mr. Henry Frowde, carried out all the arrangements entered into for the publication of the Presbyterian Book of Praise approved by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Committee desires to express its great satisfaction with everything connected with the very numerous editions which have been published, as to the printing, the paper used, the binding, and indeed with everything which goes to make all the editions, the cheapest as well as the more costly, beautiful books.

The Committee believes that they will prove quite as satisfactory to the Church as a whole as they are to its own members without exception.

The Rev. John Jenkins, D.D., LL.D., having departed this life on the 12th April, 1898, the following reference thereto was embodied in the Report of the Committee to the General Assembly in the month of June following.

‘Since the last meeting of the General Assembly it has pleased God to remove from among the members of the Hymnal Committee the Rev. John Jenkins, D.D., LL.D., who died in London, England, on April 12 last, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. Besides the many other valuable services which, during his

lengthened life, he was enabled to render to the cause of Christ, in whose more immediate presence we believe he is now rejoicing, he took an active and effective part in the work of the Hymnal Committee. During the first eight years of its existence he was the senior joint-convener of the Committee, and in this capacity presided over its meetings with dignity, suavity, and tact, while in the selection of hymns he displayed fine taste and wise discrimination. His removal to England deprived the Committee of his presence at its meetings, but he still continued to take a deep interest in its work. During the last few years especially he rendered important services in connexion with the publication of the Book of Praise in the way of helping to secure the use of copyright tunes and hymns in conferences with the delegates sent to England to superintend the printing and publication of the Book. With the bereaved partner of his life and the members of the family the Committee record their deep sympathy, and their earnest prayer that the God of all consolation may comfort them in their bereavement and bestow upon them the best blessings both for time and eternity.'

The Committee reported the royalty on nine

months' sale at the sum of \$11904.71, enabling the Secretary-Treasurer to pay off all liabilities due, and contribute the sum of \$6000.00 to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund and Widows' and Orphans' Fund. By direction of the General Assembly it was provided that the amounts for each be divided in the proportion of three parts to the Western Funds and one part to the Eastern Funds.

Since 1898 nothing calling for any particular notice has occurred, the sales have continued to grow and the royalties have been duly paid, while the several editions as issued have been a credit to our worthy publishers.

It is hardly necessary to state that the reception of the Presbyterian Book of Praise by the Church, as also by members of other Churches, has more than met the highest expectations of the Hymnal Committee. The work entrusted to them was unusually difficult, inasmuch that the contents in words and music alike were required to be suited not only to the use of worshippers in Church Services, but also adapted to Mission Services, Prayer Meetings, Sabbath Schools, Bible Classes and Young People's Societies.

The Committee have good reason to be confident that their labours have been crowned with

success, for not only has the Presbyterian Book of Praise been received throughout the Church with enthusiasm, but it has exercised a great influence upon the spiritual life of our people.

AMOUNTS PAID TO THE TREASURER OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA OUT
OF ROYALTIES RECEIVED FROM THE PUB-
LISHERS.

HYMNALS.

1881	.	.	.	\$675.00	
1882	.	.	.	976.51	
1883	.	.	.	240.00	
1890	.	.	.	1000.00	
1891	.	.	.	1192.71	
1892	.	.	.	1200.00	
				<hr/>	\$5284.22

BOOK OF PRAISE.

1897-1898	.	.	\$6000.00	
1898-1899	.	.	1800.00	
1899-1900	.	.	1200.00	
1900-1901	.	.	1500.00	
1901-1902	.	.	1200.00	
1902-1903	.	.	1500.00	
1903-1904	.	.	2000.00	
			<hr/>	15200.00
Total	.	.		\$20484.22

TOTAL SALES OF 'HYMNALS' AND
'PRESBYTERIAN BOOK OF PRAISE.'

HYMNALS.

1882.	Of all editions to date	.	40,000
1883	" "	.	34,000
1885	" "	.	31,000
1886	" "	.	41,400
1888	" "	.	28,241
1889	" "	.	67,906
1890	" "	.	58,112
1891	" "	.	42,910
1892	" "	.	44,639
1893	" "	.	35,702
1894	" "	.	27,567
1895	" "	.	19,804
1896	" "	.	17,275
			<u>488,556</u>

BOOK OF PRAISE.

1897-1898	.	.	.	.	366,100
1898-1899	.	.	.	.	60,621
1899-1900	.	.	.	.	43,838
1900-1901	.	.	.	.	63,778
1901-1902	.	.	.	.	57,601
1902-1903	.	.	.	.	74,108
1903-1904	.	.	.	.	73,873
					<u>739,919</u>

Grand total 1,228,475



THE UNIVERSITY PRESS, OXFORD, ENGLAND



THE QUADRANGLE OF THE PRINTING OFFICE AT OXFORD

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

A FEW particulars of the Oxford University Press, now brought into such close connexion with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, will be read with interest. As already stated, the offer of Mr. Henry Frowde, publisher to the University of Oxford, to issue 'The Presbyterian Book of Praise,' was accepted by the Hymnal Committee on Oct. 2, 1896. The Oxford Press was in an exceptional position. It is almost entirely self-sufficing—it does its own paper-making, ink-making, type-founding, electrotyping, stereotyping, letterpress, lithographic, and all kinds of printing and bookbinding; and few, if any, other houses could offer such facilities. This historic press is the only one in the world which can show a list of its productions for upwards of 300 years. It has manifested continuous activity since 1585. The first book which it issued was the treatise of Tyrannius Rufinus on the Apostles' Creed, ascribed to St. Jerome, and bearing the date 1468, generally supposed to be an early printer's error for 1478. The first Oxford Bible and

Prayer Book dates from 1675, and for many years the output of Oxford Bibles has been the largest in the world, averaging a million copies a year. The high standard of Oxford Bibles is universally acknowledged, and extraordinary pains are taken to ensure absolute accuracy in the text. It was on account of manifold errors that a monopoly in Bible printing was originally granted in England. The convenience of being able to obtain 'The Presbyterian Book of Praise' bound up in one volume with the Holy Bible has been greatly appreciated.

The printing, which is done at Oxford, was first carried on in hired premises in the university town; then in the famous Church of St. Mary the Virgin; next, from 1669 to 1713, in the Sheldonian Theatre; thereafter, until 1830, at the Clarendon Building, near the Theatre; and for the last seventy-five years in the present stately and picturesque buildings. The Oxford type foundry is the most ancient in England, and a hundred years ago £4,000 was paid for the right to use at Oxford the then secret process of stereotyping. Beautiful type presented to the Press by the famous Dr. Fell, in 1666, is still occasionally used. There is no more fascinating place in England for those interested in the details of printing than the

University Press at Oxford. The name Clarendon Press is derived from the historian, who presented the copyright of his great 'History of the Rebellion' to the University; and the profits derived from the sales of this work were devoted to building the printing-house.

The University paper mills are situated at Wolvercote, near Oxford; and as far back as 1728, Hearne, the antiquary, wrote that some of the best paper made in England was made there. The Oxford University Press is famous for its India paper, which, it is not too much to say, has revolutionized the Bible, Prayer Book, and Hymn Book trades, being now used for the more popular devotional books all over the world. It has brought a better class of editions into existence. Those intended for the pocket have been reduced in bulk by fully one half, and the editions now in popular use are in larger type than was the case twenty-five years ago. On the other hand, a number of diminutive editions have been rendered possible, which would then have been regarded as miraculous. Since this paper was introduced, lighter and softer bindings have come into favour, while the heavy bevelled covers, mounted with metal corners and clasp, with which one used to be familiar, have disappeared.

This is how the Oxford India paper was discovered. In the year 1841 an Oxford graduate brought home from the far East a small fold of extremely thin paper, which was manifestly more opaque and tough for its substance than any paper then manufactured in Europe. He presented it to the University Press, and it was found to be just sufficient for twenty-four copies of the smallest Bible then in existence—diamond 24mo—which were duly printed. The books were barely a third of the usual thickness, and although as much as £20 apiece was offered for them no copies were sold, but they were presented to Queen Victoria and various persons. The incident was in the course of time forgotten, but, in 1874, experiments were again begun, and in the following year a Bible was placed on the market similar to the 1842 edition. In a short time a quarter of a million copies had been sold. At the last Paris Exhibition this paper was awarded a Grand Prix.

The head quarters of Mr. Frowde, the publisher to the University, are in London, at Amen Corner, close to St. Paul's Cathedral, where the publishing business is conducted. Until August last, when a Canadian branch of the Oxford University Press was opened in Toronto, the work of publishing 'The Presbyterian Book of



THE OXFORD PRESS PUBLISHING HOUSE

AMEN CORNER, LONDON

FROM STATIONERS' HALL COURT

Praise' has been carried on from London. The first shipment of copies was the largest of any one book ever sent in a single vessel, and great pains had to be taken so that the booksellers in Canada should be supplied with the volumes for simultaneous distribution. As far back as 1770 the University Press had a Bible Warehouse hard by in Paternoster Row. The University Binding House, where the fine bindings are designed and executed, is also in London.

The greatest feat in connexion with recent publishing was the issuing of the Revised Version of the Bible, which was undertaken at the joint expense of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. It was on May 17, 1881, that the Revised Testament was published, and the run on the Oxford University Press Warehouse was unprecedented, upwards of a million copies being issued by Mr. Frowde between midnight and midday. The Revised Version of the entire Bible was issued on May 18, 1885, and the revised Apocrypha was issued in the late autumn of 1895.

As is well known, 'The Church Hymnary,' authorized for use by the Church of Scotland, the United Free Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and the Presbyterian Churches in Australia, New Zealand, and South

Africa, and the 'The Psalter in Metre,' are also printed and published by the Oxford University Press, and within the first few weeks of publication upwards of a million copies were sold.

Of course the Oxford University Press is equally well known for its many learned publications and school books. The greatest enterprise that any University or printing-press has taken in hand since the invention of printing is 'The Oxford English Dictionary.' But space forbids even the barest reference to other works which have secured for the Press a great reputation throughout the world.

That the arrangements which the Hymnal Committee made with Mr. Frowde have proved eminently satisfactory is shown by the resolution passed by the Executive Committee, and recorded on a previous page.

